tonnage/ad valorem basis were last revised on 14.10.2004. At present, State Governments have been charging royalty as per royalty rates notified on 14.10.2004.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Payment of salaries

4075. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that payment of teaching and non-teaching staff of Mossaboni Mines Middle High School and Surda Mines Middle High School of Jharkhand are withheld inspite of the court order; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Navratna status to NALCO

†4076. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that announcements are being made at different places, meetings at annual press conferences and at Consultative Committee meeting to the effect that "National Aluminium Company" (NALCO) would be categorized as Navratna company shortly;

(b) if so, by when such announcements would fully materialise;

(c) the actual reasons for the delays; and

(d) the basis on which the appointment of Director is being considered?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) to (d) The Apex Committee in its meeting held on 13.2.2007 had recommended grant of Navratna status to National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO) subject to the condition that requisite number of non-official part time (Independent) Directors are appointed on the Board of the Company. The appointment of non-official Directors is carried out as per laid down elaborate procedure, which involves sending a panel of names to the Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) for soliciting recommendations of the Search Committee. The names recommended by the Search Committee are sent to Department of Personnel & Training for obtaining approval of the Appointments Committee of Cabinet (ACC). The requisite number of non-official Directors have been appointment on the Board of NALCO vide this Ministry's orders dated 27.9.2007 and 24.4.2008. Matter was thereafter referred to DPE for taking further necessary action in the matter. Formal order conferring Navratna status to NALCO has been issued by DPE on 28th April, 2008.

Mining companies

4077. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the public and private sector mining companies operating in the country, State-wise;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.